MARVEL

12

LGY#637

IRON MAN

CANTWELL
UNZUETA
D'ARMATA

Korvac, resurrected in an android body, seeks to boost his powers to godlike levels by stealing cosmic energies from *Taa II*, Galactus' worldship. Iron Man assembled an eclectic team of heroes, including Hellcat, to pursue Korvac off-planet.

While en route in space, Iron Man was mysteriously teleported away to an alien planet inhabited by individuals from across the galaxy, including the armored hero Avro-X. There they managed to form a peaceful community overseen by Tony's old foe, Stilt-Man. But their tranquil existence was revealed to be a lie engineered by Stilt-Man, who was secretly responsible for stranding everyone on the planet.

After Iron Man and Avro-X defeated Stilt-Man, the cosmic entity known as the Living Tribunal appeared. The Tribunal revealed that only Iron Man could prevent an upcoming imbalance of cosmic proportions and teleported Tony and Avro-X to *Taa II*–which immediately activated the worldship's defense systems!

LET US NOW CROSS OVER

IRON MAN

WRITER • CHRISTOPHER CANTWELL ARTIST • ANGEL UNZUETA
COLOR ARTIST • FRANK D'ARMATA LETTERER • VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA
COVER • ALEX ROSS
VARIANT COVER • RAHZZAH
DESIGNER • CARLOS LAO
ASSISTANT EDITOR • MARTIN BIRO ASSOCIATE EDITORS • ALANNA SMITH & ANNALISE BISSA
EDITOR • TOM BREVOORT EDITOR IN CHIEF • C.B. CEBULSKI

IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY

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INTRUDERS. ALERT.
INTRUDERS. SECTOR 9.
INITIATE ELIMINATION PROTOCOLS.

B.O.S.S., I NEED YOU TO SCAN THE AREA FOR A LARGE COMPUTER NERVE CENTER OR SOME KIND OF MASTER CONTROL AREA.

<YES. SCANNING. SCANNING. SCANNING.>

THANK GOD GALACTUS ISN'T HOME.

HOW DO YOU KNOW FOR SURE, EH?

TRUST ME, COLIN. WE'D KNOW.

<SCANNING. SCANNING.>

<SENSORS. RANGE. CANNOT. EXTEND. FAILURE.>

MY SENSORS HAVE RANGE LIMITATIONS. CAN YOUR SUIT DO A SCAN?

SORRY, NO. OLD-FASHIONED THAT WAY.

WELL...AT LEAST YOU'RE A PRETTY COLOR.

INTRUDERS. LOCATED. SECTOR 9A POWER CHASM.

IZCHOEOW
IZCHOEOW
IZCHOEOW

THIS WAY!

TONY!

KAEFFSV

AGGNH...

KRZZK

DEAD END!

NOT NECESSARILY...

COLIN, GET OUTTA THERE--

NNNGH... I'M...ALL RIGHTY-TIGHTY... JUST A TICKLE...

GOOD. NOW WATCH THESE DRONES UP AHEAD.

BEAUTIFUL DREAMER, WAKE UNTO ME...STARLIGHT AND DEWDROPS ARE WAITING FOR THEE...

HOLY MOSES!

SOUNDS OF THE RUDE WORLD HEARD IN THE DAY... DA-DAH-DUN-DUN-DA-DUM-DUM...

OH #$%&.

GZZZV

REESZHEOK

KZZINGK!

UNKNOWN VARIABLE. UNKNOWN INTENTION.

OH, IS **THAT** ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW? WELL, HEY, I'M **TONY**, I'M A **GEMINI** AND I'M ACTUALLY HERE TO HELP YOU **PREVENT** THIS SHIP FROM BEING INVADED BY **SOMEONE ELSE--**

WOHHNCH

YOU MUST BE A SAGITTARIUS, THEN...

PSZCHEOOF

HEY THERE. NICE TO SEE YA.

WOHHNCH

DUPLICATING...

I FEEL LIKE YOU GUYS ARE MAYBE CHEATING.

WHHAAMPF

SORRY-- HOPE YOU TWO WEREN'T CLOSE...

JUST ONE GUY TALKING HERE, BUT I FEEL LIKE MY FRIEND OVER THERE'S A BIGGER CONCERN FOR YA--

HNGK!

WAIT, I THINK YOUR DOUBLE-A BATTERIES ARE IN BACKWARD. LEMME HELP YOU SWITCH 'EM.

FEEZZSTCHZZZ

MERRY-GO-ROUND... BROKE DOWN...!

TRYINGGG NOT TO... PASSSSS OUTTTT...

GOTTTTTA LOCATE...FEEDBACK CIRCUITTTTT...!

AH, SCREW IT!

BAEK-KAEZSHCHK!

COLIN-- SIX O' CLOCK!

SYSTEM CRITICAL. ENGAGE SELF-DESTRUCT. FIVE... FOUR...

KRAACZZITCHH

C'MON, MOVE!

КАШ-
КОШШШШШШ

HEY... WHAT PART OF CANADA ARE YOU FROM?

WHAT...?

WHAT PART--WHAT PROVINCE?

...MANITOBA.

NEVER BEEN.

IT'S... FINE...

COLD, I BET.

YEAH. YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE.

MAN, I LOVE CANADA. GOTTA GIVE MANITOBA A SHOT.

DUCK.

FYAOW

FYAOW

FYAOW

WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF I'D GO SPENDIN' VACATION MONEY ON WINNIPEG... IT'S THE STABBING CAPITAL OF CANADA, EH?

I BET THERE'RE PARTS THAT ARE GREAT.

TONY... ARE YOU DOIN' OKAY?

I'LL ADMIT... I'M ON A LOT OF MORPHINE. A LOT. TOO MUCH.

BUT I ALSO FEEL LIKE WE'RE REALLY UP AGAINST IT HERE. LIKE WE COULD BE DEAD IN MOMENTS.

NICE TRAIN OF THOUGHT.

NOT TRYING TO BE GRIM OR ANYTHING, JUST... YOU KNOW. THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING. KILLER SPACESHIP-- THE WHOLE SHEBANG.

THERE'S ONE PART OF MANITOBA... YA EVER HEARD OF CHURCHILL?

ABOVE CHURCHILL, NEAR THE GLACIER, YOU CAN SEE **POLAR BEARS** UP THERE.

POLAR BEARS, HUH? **AMAZING.**

YOU CAN DO A **HELICOPTER** TOUR OR GO IN THESE KIND OF PILOTED AND PROTECTED...UH, WELL... **HAMSTER BALLS** IS THE ONLY THING COMING TO MIND, BUT IT'S **REALLY** FUN.

I MEAN, I GUESS YOU COULD ALSO GO LIKE **THIS**, LIKE **YOU AND I** ARE GOIN' RIGHT NOW...

I'D BE FINE WITH SOMEONE **ELSE** DOING THE FLYING FOR A WHILE.

THE TOWN, CHURCHILL... THERE'S A **WARNING SIREN** AT TEN O'CLOCK. **CURFEW** FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

STRICT TOWN.

IT'S SO KIDS DON'T GET **EATEN.**

WHAT IF A **POLAR BEAR** BREAKS CURFEW?

THE **RANGERS** COME AN' CATCH THE BEARS AN' CARRY 'EM BACK TO THE **GLACIER** SO THEY CAN KEEP HUNTIN' **RINGED SEALS** AN' WHATNOT.

THAT'S **BEAUTIFUL.** GOOD FOR THOSE POLAR BEARS.

IT REALLY IS **SOMETHIN'.**

WOW, AND SO IS THIS **SHIP...**

PERIMETER. BREACHED. LOCALIZE DEFENSES TO COORDINATES X-2-2-ALPHA-8.

SPOTTED AGAIN?

NO. SOUNDS LIKE IT'S EXTERIOR TO THE SHIP. WHICH MEANS...

KORVAC.

OR MY FRIENDS. THEY SAID THEY HAD A VISUAL ON TAA II.

I'LL TRY TO MAKE IT TO THE SHIP DOCK. YOU KEEP LOOKING FOR THE MASTER CONTROLS TO SHUT DOWN THESE DEFENSE SYSTEMS.

ROGER THAT.

EVASIVE ACTION!

LORD KORVAC, I CAN PUNCH A SMALL *FORCE-FIELD WINDOW* JUST FORWARD OF THAT STARBOARD ARMATURE.

PROCEED CAREFULLY ON THAT COURSE, UNICORN. WE DON'T WANT TO *PERISH* WHEN WE'RE *THIS* CLOSE...

CONTROLLER, DO YOU COPY? I NEED A HATCHWAY OPEN *NOW!*

YES, LORD KORVAC. I'VE GOTTEN INSIDE THE *ACCESS SYSTEMS*. BAY 7 IS DEAD AHEAD AND OPENING...

THERE, LORD. I *SEE* IT!

NICE WORK, B.O.S.S. THIS TRANSPORT BELT IS GIVING US A GRAND TOUR.

<TRANSPORT BELT.> <SPEEDS IN EXCESS OF 485 MILES PER HOUR.> <BEWARE. WIND SHEAR.> <CONTINUE.> <EMERGENCY. CROUCH. POSITION.> <RISK OF: LIMB LOSS-->

DON'T WORRY, PAL--I'M NOT STICKING MY HEAD OUT OF THE CAR ANYTIME SOON...

PE-TANGK!

THIS LOOKS MIGHTY IMPORTANT... BUT HOW TO DETERMINE WHICH CONTROLS DO WHAT...?

I THINK I'LL JUST USE THE TONY STARK METHOD...

HOPE YOU BACKED UP YOUR HARD DRIVES, MISTER GALACTUS!

PSZCHEO-PSZCHEO-PSZCHEO-PSZCHEOWF

<BAY DOOR--7--> <OPEN.><CRAFT... ARRIVING...>

KRTCH!

YEP, AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S THE GUYS I DIDN'T WANT IT TO BE...

STAY ALERT. THE DEFENSES INSIDE THIS SHIP ARE JUST AS LETHAL AS THOSE OUTSIDE, IF NOT MORE SO.

YEP, WILLY WONKA'S GOT A REAL POINT THERE.

THIS PLACE HAS ALL KINDS OF SURPRISES.

IS THIS WHERE YOU DISAPPEARED TO? STRAIGHT TO THE WORLDSHIP?

JIM HAMMOND? WHAT'S THE ORIGINAL HUMAN TORCH DOING WITH YOU JACKALS?

NO. LONG STORY, BUT IT INVOLVES ANOTHER MISGUIDED CREEP WHO THOUGHT HE WAS GOD.

MY BROTHER, JIM, HAS... SEEN THE LIGHT.

HA! RIGHT.

UPRIGHT WORM.

WHAAOOSSS

WHAT KIND OF GOD KILLS FOR JOY? KILLS FOR SPORT?!

WHAT KIND OF GOD INDEED--

A FALSE ONE!

A FRAUD!

AAAGGH!

A FAKE, CHEAP IDOL!

LORD KORVAC!

WEA-CHOEOOVV

WEA-CHOEOOVV

HYEO-CHEEOOK

...I...

PERIMETER. BREACHED. LOCALIZE DEFENSES TO COORDINATES X-2-2-ALPHA-11.

STAY YOUR HAND. CAN'T YOU TELL? HE'S *ALREADY* DYING.

EASY, BROTHER BASIL. REMEMBER THE *MISSION.*

PTHOO

HE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO WITNESS SOMETHING *BEATIFIC* BEFORE HE DIES.

HE'S *AT LEAST* EARNED THAT.

CONTROLS ARE TOO **SLUGGISH** TO AVOID FLACK, BUT I'VE GOT A LOCK ON **TONY'S ARMOR A.I.**, WHICH IS STILL FUNCTIONAL.

HOW IN THE ***HELL*** DID HE GET HERE BEFORE US?

WHO KNOWS? BUT **FORCE-FIELDS** RISING **DIRECTLY** AHEAD. WE'RE GONNA **SLAM** INTO THEM UNLESS WE BANK AWAY.

NO. ***FLOOR*** IT AND GET INSIDE THE SHIELDS BEFORE THEY FORM.

THAT'S **SUICIDAL.**

TWO FAVORS, RHODEY. ONE: ***DON'T*** USE THAT WORD WITH ME EVER AGAIN. AND TWO: ***HIT THE GAS.***

WE'VE GOT NO PLACE TO LAND.

WE HAVE ***MISSILES.*** LET'S ***MAKE*** ONE.

OH BOY.

THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SPEAKING. KEEP YOUR SEAT BELTS **FASTENED** AS WE ARE ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE SOME TURBULENCE.

WHY DO I GET THE FEELING THAT'S AN ***UNDERSTATEMENT?***

KAOK-KAA-KKOWW-PAOOWCKF

CWEEAAARNNNNGHH

...

"Beautiful dreamer / Awake unto me..."
--Stephen Foster, 1862

NEXT

THE EPIC SHOWDOWN BETWEEN IRON MAN AND HIS ALLIES AND KORVAC AND HIS COHORTS CONTINUES ABOARD GALACTUS' WORLDSHIP! CAN TONY AND HIS ALLIES END THIS FIGHT ONCE AND FOR ALL? OR ARE THINGS ABOUT TO GET A WHOLE LOT WORSE? AND IF THEY DO, WILL TONY BE FORCED TO MAKE A CHOICE THAT ALTERS THE COURSE OF HIS VERY HUMAN EXISTENCE FOREVER?

FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE RESOURCES, CALL THE SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION'S NATIONAL HELPLINE AT 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

ZONE